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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 20-24 as follows:

1-7. (Canceled)

CS 8. (Withdrawn) A blower which is arranged to suck air inside an annular wall through slits as a fan rotates, the annular wall being formed away from the ends of fan blades, and the slits, passing from the inner perimeter to the outer perimeter of the annular wall at a section which corresponds to the ends of fan blades, being formed in sections of said annular wall which are opposite to the ends of fan blades,

wherein the cross-sectional shape of the fan obtained by cutting a blade through the surface of a cylinder concentric with the axis of rotation of the fan is an airfoil, and the shape of the fan near the end of each blade is an airfoil in response to air flowing in through said slits.

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9. (Withdrawn) A blower according to claim 8, wherein the blade thickness near the end of the blade is gradually reduced toward the end.

10. (Withdrawn) A blower according to claim 9, wherein the airfoil obtained by cutting the fan through the surface of a cylinder concentric with the axis of rotation is so formed that the location at which the blade thickness is maximum gradually moves toward a blade trailing edge side as the location approaches the end of the blade.

11. (Withdrawn) A blower according to claim 9, wherein the blade advance angle near the end of the blade is set larger than in other sections.

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12. (Withdrawn) A blower according to claim 11, wherein the blade advance angle $f\angle$ is set to satisfy the following equation:

$$f\angle = \tan^{-1}(v/u)$$

where v is the average velocity of air flowing in from outside the annular wall, and u is the peripheral speed of the end of the blade.

13. (Withdrawn) A blower according to claim 9, wherein the blade inclination angle near the end of the blade is set equal to the angle of the slits provided in the annular wall.

14-16. (Canceled)

17. (Withdrawn) A blower which is arranged to suck air inside an annular wall through slits as a fan rotates, the annular wall being formed away from the ends of fan blades, and the slits, passing from the inner perimeter to the outer perimeter of the annular wall at a section which corresponds to the ends of fan

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blades, being formed in sections of said annular wall which are opposite to said ends of the fan blades,

wherein the annular wall with the slits is formed by stacking a plurality of annular plates in a spaced relation from each other through spacers in the direction of the axis of rotation of the fan, and the width of said slits is larger only near said spacers than in the surroundings thereof.

18. (Withdrawn) A blower according to claim 17, wherein the thickness of a section in which the width of said slits are larger than in the surroundings thereof is equal to or smaller than the width of the surrounding slits.

19. (Withdrawn) A blower which is arranged to suck air inside an annular wall through slits as a fan rotates, the annular wall being formed away from the ends of fan blades, and the slits, passing from the inner perimeter to the outer perimeter of the annular wall at a section which corresponds to the ends of fan blades, being formed in sections of said annular wall which are

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opposite to said ends of the fan blades,

wherein the annular wall with the slits is formed by stacking a plurality of annular plates in a spaced relation from each other through spacers in the direction of the axis of rotation of the fan, and notches are provided near the spacers in the outer perimeter of said annular plates so as to reduce the radial length of the annular plates.

20. (Currently Amended) A blower which is arranged to suck air inside an annular wall through slits as a fan rotates, the annular wall being ~~formed away~~ spaced from the ends of the fan blades, and the slits, passing from the inner perimeter to the outer perimeter of the annular wall at a section ~~which corresponds to radially outward of the ends of the fan blades, being formed located~~ in sections of said annular wall ~~which are opposite to adjacent~~ said ends of the fan blades,

wherein the annular wall with the slits ~~is formed by stacking comprises~~ a plurality of annular plates stacked in a spaced relation from each other in planes transverse to the longitudinal

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direction of the axis of rotation of the fan spaced by n through
spacers in the direction of the axis of rotation of the fan, where
n is an integer greater than or equal to five, and at least (n-2)
n-2 of the n spacers (n is an integer equal to or larger than
five), are disposed in parallel with each other.

21. (Currently Amended) A blower according to claim 20,
comprising a four sided casing body, the slots being in the sides
thereof, wherein among the spacers forming and supporting the
slits, those spacers are at and near the middle of the four sides
of the casing body and are inclined with respect to the a radial
plane direction perpendicular to the axis of rotation of the fan.

22. (Currently Amended) A blower according to claim 20,
wherein the casing body also has four corners, and among the
spacers forming and supporting the slits, those spacers in the four
corners of the casing body are inclined with respect to the a
radial plane direction perpendicular to the axis of rotation of the
fan.

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23. (Currently Amended) A blower according to claim 20 ~~22~~, wherein the radially outer peripheral ends of the spacers inclined with respect to the radial plane ~~direction~~ are cambered or cut obliquely.

24. (Currently Amended) A blower-housing molding method for molding a four sided blower housing of the blower according to claim 21 ~~using~~ comprising an annular wall spaced from the ends of blades of a fan, said annular wall provided with slits formed in the sides therein to allow air to pass from the exterior perimeter of the housing to the interior of the housing, said slits being separated by n spacers where n is an integer greater than or equal to five, located at and near the middle of the four sides, and at least n-2 of the spacers are inclined with respect to a radial plane perpendicular to the axis of rotation of the fan, comprising:
using a pair of upper and lower molds for forming [the] an inner surface of the said annular wall and a boss to which a motor is secured, and a pair of slide cores sliding opposite to each

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other at right angles to the a moving direction of said pair of molds,

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wherein ~~and forming~~ the slits all around the annular wall are formed by using said pair of slide cores at a the same time as the ~~and the~~ annular wall, a base serving as a reference for installing the blower, and the boss are molded as a single piece respectively.
